VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Khadi Mission in the letter to its member institutions had inter alia informed that all the Khadi Bhandars shall be kept closed from 1st to 7th August, 2000.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Khadi rebate policy for the current financial year has already been declaced on 1.6.2000. Regarding payment of rebate claims, adequate funds have already been provided to the KVIC. Financial assistance by the banks is provided to the institutions on the basis of the ISEC issued by the KVIC, which in turn is based on the performance of the institutions.

Agreement with an American Company to take satellite photographs

3409. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in an agreement signed with an American Company, "Space Imaging", the Department of Space, India has permitted the former to take satellite photographs and to manage their sale and distribution;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Defence and army authority in India had expressed grave reservation about this measure, which in their opinion, would compromise national security; and

(d) if so, under what compelling circumstances was the objection from the defence authorities overruled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, an agreement is under finalisation between Antrix Corporation of Department of Space with "Space Imaging", a US Company for regulating the dissemination of 1 Mtr. Spatial resolution data from IKONOS satellite.

(c) and (d) Under the United Nations (UN) principles relating to remote sensing of the Earth from Outer Space, there is no restriction on any satellite imaging over any country and therefore, the question of permission for any satellite to take pictures from Outer Space does not arise. However, there is a need for regulating the distribution of the High-resolution data to the users in the country in order to take care of the national security. Hence, Government of India have examined the matter and decided on the Policy for acquisition and dissemination of satellite remote sensing images, including high-resolution images to support developmental activities. The Policy was formulated after detailed discussions with all the concerned Ministries/Departments. As per the Policy the high-resolution data (including the data from IKONOS of Space Imaging) will be distributed through Antrix Corporation/National Remote Sensing Agency, Department of Space, after taking into account national security considerations.

Monitoring the Implementation of Programmes

† 3410. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the programmes in India are implemented on papers only;

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government to monitor the implementation of schemes; and

(c) if not, the details of the programmes completed during the last five years, State-wise/year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURJE): (a) No, Sir.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.